**The “Reading with Your Pen”** Palette for Annotating Texts

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| **1** | Summarize the article in one sentence. |
| **2** | Write a question or make a statement about something you read in the margin. Draw a line to the relevant part of the text. |
| **3** | Circle a word you don’t know. Look up the word’s definition using a dictionary or www.dictionary.com. Write the definition or synonym of the word in the margin. |
| **4** | Draw an (arrow) to illustrate the link between two parts of the text. Write your explanation near the arrow or in the margin. |
| **5** | Circle an idea in the text that you find enlightening (an idea that you find very interesting or that taught you something). In the margin, explain what it taught you. |
| **6** | Underline something you disagree with and write a note in the margin to explain why. Be constructive! |
| **7** | Underline a sentence you found totally confusing. Draw a big **?** (question mark) next to the sentence and in the margin, write about why you found it confusing. |
| **8** | Write an **E** near part of the text where an event is described. In the margin write down what you think are the cause and the effect of this event. |
| **9** | Is there a word in the text that is hard to pronounce? If so, ask how that word is pronounced and make note of the pronunciation next to the word using a phonetic (FO-NEH-TIC) spelling. |
| **10** | Draw a box around a sentence that you think is the main idea, thesis, or organizing concept of the text you’re reading. |
| **11** | Write a specific comment about how you find an idea in the text interesting or useful. You may also reflect on what it made you think about. |
| **12** | Remix/rewrite/translate/paraphrase part of the text into your own words. Write your own version of the text in the margin. |
| **13** | Draw a (star) next to a word, concept, or idea from the text that you learned about in another class. Write what you remember about the word or concept in the margin. |
| **14** | Write down a comment that builds on what you just read. For example, you might make a connection between the reading and your life, imagine you’re in a conversation with the author, or predict what might happen next. |
| **15** | Draw a **KEY** next to something that you think is a “key” idea. Explain in the margin why you think this idea is important. |
| **16** | Underline a sentence you found surprising. Draw a big **!** (exclamation mark) next to the sentence that caught your attention in the margin. |
| **17** | Draw a hook next to the part of the text that “hooked” your attention. In the margin, write why the passage hooked you. |
| **18** | In the margin, draw a simple picture or cartoon to help you understand something in the text. Draw an arrow connecting your picture and the text. |
| **19** | Write and answer the 5Ws & 1H (Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How) in the margin of the text. |
| **20** | Underline a detail that you find so interesting that you would want to share it with someone else. Place a (lightning bolt) next to the statement. |